

Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 189632 TOSEC 080283

FOR HODDING CARTER FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SOPN,OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT: TRAVELLING PRESS SUMMARY, EVENING AUGUST 10

NO. 30

WIRE SERVICES

UPI - JIM ANDERSON FROM JERUSALEM

LEAD: SECSTATE VANCE SAID WEDNESDAY SOME IMPOSING OBSTACLES
TO ME PEACE HAVE "DISAPPEARED" BUT GAP BETWEEN ARABS AND
ISRAEL REMAINS WIDE AND SERIOUS.

OTHER POINTS:

-- VANCE SAID HE STILL HOPEFUL GENEVA CONFERENCE CAN BE
ARRANGED BY END OF THIS YEAR. BEGIN AGREED HE WAS OPTIMIS-
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TIC BUT KEY AIDE, SCHMUEL KATZ, SAID ARABS COULD WRECK
TALKS BY INSISTING ON PLO PARTICIPATION - "I CANNOT PRE-
DICT AT THIS POINT HOW MATTER WILL BE RESOLVED", VANCE TOLD
REPORTS. "LET ME SAY THAT FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES REMAIN.
THE PARTIES REMAIN DIVIDED ON KEY ISSUES WHICH MUST BE
RESOLVED IF PROGRESS MUST BE MADE TOWARD A SETTLEMENT. THESE
INVOLVE BOTH PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS".

--PRINCIPLE ISSUES ARE PALESTINE AND THE PALESTINIANS,
SECRETARY SAID.

--BEGIN, WHO TALKED WITH VANCE THREE AND A HALF HOURS
WEDNESDAY, SAID "I EMERGE FROM THE MEETINGS IN A GOOD
MOOD- THERE WAS NOT ONE WORD OF PRESSURE THAT WE AGREE
ON THE PARTICIPATION OF THE ORGANIZATION OF MURDERERS
KNOWN AS THE PLO. VARIOUS PROBLEMS WERE RAISED, BUT
THERE IS NO CONFRONTATION. WE'RE ALL OPTIMISTIC. JEWS
ARE OPTIMIST" BY NATURE".

-- CURRENT ROUND OF TALKS WITH ARABS AND ISRAELIS "HAVE
BEEN ABLE TO GET INTO MUCH MORE DETAIL ON SUBSTANCE OF
VARIOUS ISSUES", VANCE SAID. "IN DOING THAT, WE HAVE
FOUND THAT IN SOME CASES WHAT APPEAR TO BE IRRECONCILABLE
DIFFERENCES HAVE DISAPPEARED". BUT VANCE, APPEARING
WEARY, SAID TWO DAYS OF TALKS IN ISRAEL "DID NOT NARROW
THE GAP ANY FURTHER. YES, I WOULD HAVE LIKED TO MAKE
MORE PROGRESS ON THIS TRIP. SHARP DIFFERENCES REMAIN BUT
IT HAS BEEN USEFUL".

-- IN MANHATTAN, VANCE SAID, HE WILL GO BACK AND FORTH
BETWEEN ARAB AND ISRAELI SIDES TO TRY TO FIND AGREEMENT.
IF BY SEPTEMBER PLO HAS ACCEPTED 242, VANCE SAID HE WOULD
EXPECT TO BRING THE PALESTINIANS INTO THAT ROUND OF
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MEDIATION.

AP - SCHWEID FROM JERUSALEM

LEAD: SECSTATE VANCE SAID WEDNESDAY ISRAEL HAS GIVEN
NO GROUND ON PALESTINIANS OR OTHER KEY ISSUES IN MIDDLE
EAST DISPUTE.

--BUT VANCE SAID HE WILL KEEP DRIVING FOR PEACE SETTLE-
MENT BY SHUTTling BETWEEN ARAB AND ISRAELI FOREIGN
MINISTERS ATTENDING UNGA NEXT MONTH.

--SECRETARY TOLD NEWS CONFERENCE THAT "IN THE DISCUSsION
HERE IN ISRAEL WE DID NOT NARROW THE GAP ANY FURTHER".

--HOWEVER HE SAID AT UNGA HE EXPECTS "TO GO BETWEEN THE
PARTIES" TO TRY TO WORK OUT A RECONCILIATION THAT WILL
SET STAGE FOR GENEVA CONFERENCE BY END OF THE YEAR.

--IN WHAT WOULD REPRESENT MAJOR SHIFT IN THE U.S. POLICY,
VANCE TOLD REPORTERS AFTER FINAL MEETING WITH BEGIN HE
MIGHT ALSO TALK TO PLO REPRESENTATIVES IF PLO APPROVED

SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS IMPLICITLY RECOGNIZING

ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE.

--BUT HE SAID ISRAELIS "MADE IT VERY CLEAR" THEY WOULD NOT
ACCEPT PALESTINIAN HOMELAND OR NEGOTIATE WITH PLO.

--BEGIN REITERATED AT SEPARATE SESSION WITH PRESS THAT
"UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL WE AGREE TO ANY NEGOTIATIONS
WITH SO-CALLED PLO".

--BEGIN SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO "CONFRONTATION" IN TALKS
WITH VANCE AND CLAIMED SECRETARY HAD ACHIEVED AN UNSPEC-
IFIED "GREAT ACHIEVEMENT" ON HIS TRIP.
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--VANCE CREDITED ARAB COUNTRIES WITH "MORE FLEXIBILITY"
THAN IN THE PAST ON THE KIND OF PEACE TERMS SETTLEMENT
MIGHT ENTAIL.

--"IF IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO CLOSE THE GAP" ON THIS (PLO
REPRESENTATION AT GENEVA AND WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED
LANDS), VANCE SAID, "THEN WE WILL HAVE TO DECIDE WHETHER
ON THAT BASIS IT IS APPROPRIATE TO PROCEED TO GENEVA".

REUTER - GUTMAN FROM JERUSALEM

LEAD: SECSTATE VANCE ADMITTED TODAY HE HAD FAILED TO
WRING CONCESSIONS OUT OF ISRAELIS IN RESPONSE TO WHAT HE
TERMED INCREASED ARAB FLEXIBILITY. VANCE SAID FUNDAMENTAL
DIFFERENCES REMAINED BETWEEN THE ISRAELIS AND ARABS ON
KEY ISSUES AND HE HAD FAILED TO NARROW THE GAP DURING HIS
LAST TWO DAYS OF TALKS WITH ISRAELI LEADERS.

OTHER POINTS:

--BY CONTRAST, VANCE TOLD PRESS CONFERENCE SOME ARAB STATES
HAD SHOWED AT LEAST SOME INCREASED WILLINGNESS TO COM-
PROMISE. HE CITED ARAB CONCESSIONS TO RETHINK DEFINI-
TION OF PEACE THEY ENVISAGE FLOWING FROM SUCCESSFUL
NEGOTIATIONS.

--VANCE SAID HE WOULD MEET FOREIGN MINISTERS OF PRINCIPAL
ARAB STATES AND ISRAEL AT UNGA MEETING, WOULD SHUTTLE
BETWEEN THEM TO DISCUSS FURTHER PEACE MOVES.

--ISRAELIS TOOK A SOMEWHAT MORE OPTIMISTIC VIEW OF TALKS
HERE. BEGIN SAID THEY HAD BEEN HELD IN GOOD ATMOSPHERE
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WITHOUT ANY CONFLICT.

--VANCE SAID "I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE MADE MORE PROGRESS. BUT I FEEL THE VISIT TO THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES HAS BEEN USEFUL EVEN THOUGH SHARP DIFFERENCES REMAIN".
EVENING TELEVISION

NBC NEWS

ANCHORMAN CHANCELLOR: SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE HAS FINISHED THE ISRAELI STAGE OF HIS MIDDLE EAST MISSION, AND SAID TODAY THAT HIS MEETINGS WITH ISRAELI OFFICIALS HAD PRODUCED NO REAL PROGRESS TOWARD A PEACE CONFERENCE, AND THAT GAPS REMAIN IN THE POSITIONS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES. LATER, PRIME MINISTER MENACHEM BEGIN SAID HE'D BE IN THE UNITED STATES IN OCTOBER, WHEN HE PLANS ANOTHER MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER.

(NO REPORT FROM VALERIANI)

ABC NEWS

ANCHORPERSON WALTERS: AFTER THE SECOND AND LAST DAY OF TALKS BETWEEN SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE AND ISRAELI LEADERS, THERE IS NO VISIBLE PROGRESS TO TALK ABOUT.

DUNSMORE: THE MEETINGS TODAY DID NOT PRODUCE ANY NARROWING OF THE GAPS BETWEEN THE ARABS AND THE ISRAELIS ON ANY OF THE BASIC ISSUES. BEGIN HELD TO ALL OF THE POSITIONS WHICH HE HAD PRESENTED IN WASHINGTON, AND HE WAS PARTICULARLY ADAMANT IN HIS REFUSAL TO DEAL IN ANY WAY WITH THE PLO, WHETHER OR NOT IT IMPLICITLY ACCEPTS ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST IN PEACE. THUS, THE MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCK TO A GENEVA CONFERENCE REMAINS. THIS WAS BUT ONE OF THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ISRAEL, LEADING TO SOME SPECULATION THAT THE BEGIN-VANCE MEETINGS WOULD LEAD TO A
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CONFRONTATION. NOT SO, SAID MR BEGIN.

BEGIN: SOME PEOPLE BEFORE I WENT TO WASHINGTON EXPECTED A SO-CALLED CONFRONTATION. TWENTY-FOUR HOURS BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF STATE ARRIVED IN ISRAEL, SOME PEOPLE SAID "NOW THERE WILL BE THE CONFRONTATION". NOW I CAN SAY: NO CONFRONTATION WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE..

DUNSMORE: AT A NEWS CONFERENCE LATER, SECRETARY VANCE EMPHASIZED THAT MAJOR DIFFERENCES REMAIN. NATURALLY HE WAS ASKED IF HE REGRETTED THIS LACK OF PROGRESS.

VANCE: THE ANSWER'S YES. I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE MADE MORE PROGRESS. BUT I FEEL THAT THESE VISITS TO THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN USEFUL, EVEN THOUGH SHARP DIFFERENCES REMAIN BETWEEN THE PARTIES.

DUNSMORE: THE NEXT STAGE OF MIDEAST DIPLOMACY WILL BE SO-CALLED PROXIMITY TALKS, WHERE THE U.S. WILL MEET

INDIVIDUALLY WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE MAJOR MIDEAST COUNTRIES DURING THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY NEXT MONTH. ALL THE PARTIES HAVE AGREED TO THIS. BUT IT'S HARDLY AN ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE TRIP, AS IT WAS DESCRIBED AS THE NEXT STEP EVEN BEFORE VANCE LEFT WASHINGTON.

CBS NEWS

ANCHORMAN MUDD: SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE WOUND UP HIS TALKS IN ISRAEL TODAY, SAYING HE WOULD HAVE LIKED TO MAKE MORE PROGRESS ON THIS TRIP.

B.KALB: SECRETARY VANCE'S DIPLOMATIC MISSION PROVED TO BE UNCLASSIFIED

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MISSION IMPOSSIBLE. WHILE HE DID FIND SOME NARROWING OF ARAB-ISRAELI DIFFERENCES, THE GAPS THAT REMAIN RULE OUT FIXING A FIRM DATE FOR A GENEVA CONFERENCE.

VANCE: LET ME SAY THAT FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES REMAIN. THE PARTIES REMAIN DIVIDED ON KEY ISSUES WHICH MUST BE RESOLVED IF PROGRESS MUST BE MADE TOWARD A SETTLEMENT. AT THIS POINT IT IS MY HOPE THAT A GENEVA CONFERENCE WILL BE CONVENED BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR.

KALB: IN AN EFFORT TO ACHIEVE THAT OBJECTIVE, VANCE APPARENTLY WORKED OUT SEPARATE MEETINGS WITH ARAB AND ISRAELI DIPLOMATS AT THE UN NEXT MONTH. THESE ARE KNOWN AS PROXIMITY TALKS, WITH THE U.S. SHUTTling BETWEEN THE ADVERSARIES.

VANCE: I WILL MEET WITH EACH OF THOSE FOREIGN MINISTERS WHEN THEY ARE IN NEW YORK. I EXPECT TO GO BETWEEN THE PARTIES, INCLUDING BETWEEN THE ISRAELIS AND THE ARAB PARTIES.

KALB: AT A FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR VANCE, THE ISRAELIS

EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE TALKS, SAYING THAT,
WHILE THERE WERE STILL DIFFERENCES WITH THE U.S., THERE
HAD BEEN NO CONFRONTATION. TOMORROW SECRETARY VANCE
EMBARKS ON THE GRAND FINALE OF HIS MIDDLE EAST MISSION:
QUICK RETURN VISITS TO THREE ARAB COUNTRIES, JORDAN,
SYRIA AND EGYPT, TO NAIL FOWN FINAL AGREEMENT ON THE
PROXIMITY TALKS BETWEEN THE ARABS AND THE ISRAELIS IN
NEW YORK NEXT MONTH.

CHRISTOPHER

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